# ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH

December 10, 2023 | Second Sunday of Advent

### DAILY MASS

Mon – Sat: 8:00 AM | Mon: 7:00 PM First Friday 12:15 PM in Latin in Feb, Apr, June, Aug, Oct, Dec. In English in Jan, Mar, May, July, Sept, Nov. And 5:30 PM (on First Friday) in English in all months.

### WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday: 4:00 PM, 5:30 PM, 7:00 PM Sunday: 7:00 AM, 8:30 AM, 10:00 AM, 12:00 PM, 4:00 PM, 7:00 PM

### RECONCILIATION

Monday through Saturday: after the 8:00 a.m. Mass until 9:00 a.m.

Monday Night: after the 7:00 p.m. Mass until 8:00 p.m.

Sunday: after the 7:00 a.m. Mass until 8:00 a.m.; 6:15 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. prior to the 7:00 p.m. Mass.

First Fridays: after the 12:15 p.m. Mass until 1:15 p.m. After the 5:30 Mass until 6:30 p.m.

#### REGISTRATION

To register with the parish, please call the Parish office for information.

### MARRIAGES

Couples who wish to marry at the parish should contact the Parish Office for a Marriage Request Form, and for further information. The bride or groom, or their parents/grandparents must be registered parishioners for at least eighteen months prior to the proposed wedding date to make arrangements. There is a twelve month timeline for wedding preparations.

### BAPTISMS

Baptisms take place generally on Sundays at 1:15 PM. Other days/times can also be arranged. Parents must be registered parishioners, and can call the Parish Office for information and scheduling.

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

To enroll your child for our Religious Education classes, please contact Kevin Connelly, (732)483-0360, ext. 2 at the Catholic Center.

### Parish Office

800 Ocean Avenue | Long Branch, NJ 07740 Ph: (732) 222-8080 | Fx: (732) 870-1174 www.stmichaelnj.com

Monday through Friday: 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. (closed 12:00 Noon -1:00 p.m. for lunch) Answering service phone coverage at all other times.

### PARISH STAFF

Rev. John Butler, Pastor Thomas Randazzo. Business Manager Kevin Connelly, Director of Religious Ed. Mary Valan, Parish Secretary Emily Carroll, Assistant Parish Secretary Lauren Walters. Acting Music Director Larry Swenson, Maintenace Coordinator

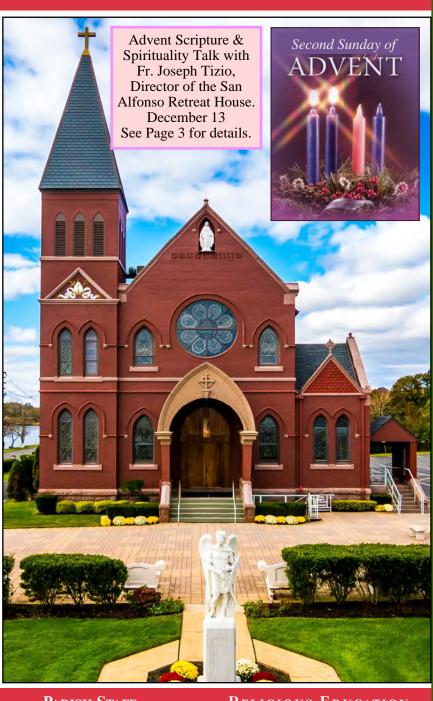
# RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

OFFICE

16 Beechwood Avenue | West Long Branch, NJ 07764

Ph: (732) 483-0360 ext. 2| Fx: (732) 795-3262

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL 732-483-0360 ext. 1





# MASS INTENTIONS

### Saturday, December 9

8:00 AM † James Cade Ducharme Lew & Renee Mazza

People of the Parish

4:00 PM † Frank Pescatore Janice Pescatore & Family

Family

† Phyllis Meola Barbara Klotz

5:30 PM † Rose Sorrentino Paul & Agnes D'Angelo

† Deceased Members of the Cervellino Family

Special Intention

7:00 PM † Debra Harrington Ed Harrington & Family

### Sunday, December 10

7:00 AM † Anne Ferrari John & Barbara Ferrari

† Jack Levy Wife Debbie

8:30 AM † Ruth Mauer Carr Family

8:45 AM (At St. Jerome's Church):

Health and Blessings: Children of Our Parish and

Our Catechists

10:00 AM † Frank Notaro Daughters

† Mary Anne Dunphy Thomas Carroll & Family

12:00 PM † Bruno Charles Lucarelli Anthony Lucarelli

† Stanley Betts Nancy & Bill Montgomery

Barbara & Edward Moskal

Barbara & Edward Moskal

4:00 PM People of the Parish

7:00 PM † Special Intention

### Monday, December 11

8:00 AM Pro-Life Cause Friends of Sylvia Marsico

7:00 PM † Irene F. & Edward W.

Moskal Sr

† Blaise & Stephanie

Mitkowski

### Tuesday, December 12

8:00 AM † Rev. Eugene Grohe, C.Ss.R.

† Richard Maglione Quinta & Daughters

### Wednesday, December 13

8:00 AM † Rita N. Cittadino Christopher M. Cittadino † Bill Delehanty Agnes & Paul D'Angelo

# December 10, 2023

A voice of one crying out in the desert: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths. Every valley shall be filled and every mountain and hill shall be made low."

-Luke 3:4-5

### Thursday, December 14

8:00 AM † Paul Rolleri Loving Wife Eileen

† Patty Chavez Luci, Ed & Elisa Perez

### Friday, December 15

8:00 AM † Paul Maguire Thayer Family

† Al De Santis, Sr. Pat, Anne Marie, & Michael Thayer

12:15 PM † Susan R. Dunn Deborah & Nicholas Migliaccio and Family

5:30 PM † Helen Messina Migliaccio Family

#### Saturday, December 16

8:00 AM † Florence Moutenot Rene & Jack Brignola

People of the Parish

4:00 PM † Dolores Jackson Husband Dennis

† Paul Rolleri John & Deborah Perri

and Family

5:30 PM † Emilia & Julius B. Simonelli Maria & Pasquale Simonelli

† Adelene LaRosa Paul & Agnes D'Angelo

Special Intention

7:00 PM † Victor Serritella Vicki & Tom Hoagland

† Betty & Gene Mellone Daughter Linda

#### Sunday, December 17

7:00 AM † Charles Murrin Theresa

8:30 AM † Frank Notaro Christopher M. Cittadino

† Mary Ann Dillon Pam & Bruce Testa

8:45 AM (At St. Jerome's Church): Health and Blessings:

Children of Our Parish and Our Catechists

Our Catechists

10:00 AM † Charles & Sophie Sedoski Mary & Catherine Farrar

† Carl DeCesare Bruce Crowell

12:00 PM † Villane Santopietro Villane Family

† Bruce Merril Van Vliet

4:00 PM † Frank DeVivo Frank, Donna & Skylar

Horsey

† Kathleen LaPointe Glenn & JoAnne Albano

7:00 PM † Jayne Natoli Mark & Juana

Monteleone and Family People of the Parish



Fr. Joseph Tizio, C.Ss.R.

Fr. Joseph Tizio, C.Ss.R., the newly appointed and recently arrived new Director of the San Alfonso Retreat House, is visiting St. Michael's for two Advent Scripture & Spirituality talks (each begin-

ning at 7:00p.m. in our Upper Church). The second of these two talks will be:

- Wednesday, December 13: "The Humble Heart: The Birthplace of Christ". The Word became flesh through the Virgin Mary's act of perfect surrender and trust. So, the Word becomes flesh in us when we learn to trust and surrender.
- All are invited and welcome. No admission charge. Weather permitting, light refreshments will be served outdoors on the church courtyard immediately following this talk.

### "The Little Blue Book"

Advent and Christmas Season 2023-2024 These books contain six-minute reflections on the Sunday Gospels of Liturgical Year A. If you would like a free copy, they are available in the back of the church.

# Blessing of Christmas Creche, Prayers, and Carols: Saturday, Dec. 16 and Sunday, December 17

The parish's outdoor Christmas Creche will be installed on the rectory's front lawn during the next few days (please see the accompanying photo from Advent 2022).

The Creche is a gift to the parish and to the people of the parish and the community in memory of Rosa Alba Stranieri from Rosa's family. On Saturday the 16th immediately after the 4:00 p.m. Mass and on Sunday the 17th immediately after the 10:00 a.m. Mass we will gather at the Creche to bless and re-dedicate it, to



pray for Rosa's eternal rest, and to sing *Silent Night* as a parish family. All are invited to attend and participate.



### **Christmas Mass Schedule 2023**

## Christmas Eve, Sunday, December 24

2:30 p.m. (at the Pollak Theater at Monmouth University and with permission from Bishop O'Connell for this early starting time.)

4:00 p.m. 5:30 p.m., 7:00 p.m., 8:30 p.m., and 10:00 p.m.

### Christmas Day, Monday, December 25

7:00 a.m., 8:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 12:00 p.m., and 5:00 p.m.

The following Masses will be live-streamed (available at the parish website www.stmichaelnj.com) and then archived on the parish website: Christmas Eve 5:30 p.m. Mass and Christmas Day 10:00 a.m. Mass.

Please remember that (as of December 5) the Lower Church will most likely not be available for Christmas Eve Masses and Christmas Day Masses because of the water damage in the church basement from the September 29 rainfall and flooding. Therefore seating capacity may be limited to the Upper Church only unlike recent past years. Please plan accordingly. Further information about the repairs to the Lower Church may be found on Page 6.

# ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE MONDAY, DECEMBER 18

The parish's Advent/Pre-Christmas Penance Service will be on Monday, December 18 in two sessions (before and after the 7:00 p.m. Mass) from 6:00 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. and from 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Four priests will be available to hear Confessions that night. All are invited and welcome to



attend and receive the grace of the Sacrament of Reconciliation as part of our spiritual preparation for Christmas.

Confessions during Advent will also be heard during the usual hours and the extra hours listed on the bulletin cover and on Page 5.

# Mass for the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe will be celebrated on

Monday, December 11th, 7:30 p.m. (Spanish) at Our Lady Star of the Sea Church and



Tuesday, December 12th, 7:30 p.m. (Portuguese/Spanish) at Our Lady Star of the Sea Church and

Tuesday, December 12th, 12:10 p.m. (English) at Holy Trinity Church and

Tuesday, December 12th at the usual 8:00 time at St. Michael's Church.



# Advent Days of Prayer San Alfonso Retreat House 755 Ocean Ave, Long Branch, NJ 07740

Come join us for our Advent Days of Prayer:

Join us for fellowship, prayer and reflection to prepare your mind, heart, and soul for Christmas!

# Tuesday, December 12, 2023

The Lion and the Lamb: A Vision of Peace this Advent

Presenter: Br. Ken Stinger, C.Ss.R. 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Stipend: Sliding scale \$45 - \$55

### Sábado 16 De Diciembre 2023

(To be conducted in Spanish)
Tú Importas a Los Ojos De Dios
(You Matter in God's Eyes)
Presenter: Fr. Joseph Tizio, C.Ss.R.
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Stipend: \$30

To register: e-mail <a href="mailto:info@sanalfonsoretreats.org">info@sanalfonsoretreats.org</a>
Visit our website: <a href="www.sanalfonsoretreats.org">www.sanalfonsoretreats.org</a>

# Second Collection This Weekend December 9 and 10 for the Retirement Fund for Religious



This weekend we will take up a Second Collection at all Masses to support the Retirement Fund for Religious. The elderly religious need your help. Like those pictured, nearly 25,000 senior sisters, brothers and religious order priests have dedicated their lives to serving others through praying for us, ministering to us, educating the young, caring for

those who are sick and more-most for little or no pay, leaving a profound shortage in retirement savings. Your donation will make a real difference in providing essential care, medicine and other necessities. Learn more about the Retirement Fund for Religious at retiredreligious.org Please give generously.

Please make checks payable to St. Michael's Church.

# A Season to Remember Begins at Saint Leo the Great Religious Store

A Catholic Gift Store for Friends, Family and Clergy



Give the gifts that matter most with devotionals that focus on our faith.

We have something for everyone!

You'll find unique gifts such as,

Nativities including those from Fontanini Advent Wreaths, Candles & Calendars ● Home Décor

Crucifixes • Holy Family Statuary • Angels • Specialty Ornaments Religious & Fine Jewelry • Bibles & Books • Holy Cards & more!

Our Rosary & Travel Centers are fully stocked with great ideas for meaningful stocking stuffers.



### Regular Store Hours:

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 10:00am - 4:00pm

Extended Holiday Hours: 12/19, 12/20, 12/21 & 12/22

10:00am-6:00pm



50 Hurleys Lane • Lincroft, NJ 07738 Located at the lower level of the Parish Center 908-770-1989 • www.stleothegreat.com/store

### Advent Fridays Worship & Liturgy Update

Extra Masses and times for Eucharistic Adoration and Confession have been added to the parish calendar on the next two Fridays (December 15 and 22) of this year's Season of Advent as follows

•Mass	12:15
•Confessions	12:45 to 1:15
•Eucharistic Adoration	12:45 to 5:15
•Benediction	5:15
•Mass	5:30
•Confessions	6:00 to 6:30



### **OUR PROMISE TO PROTECT:**

The Diocese of Trenton and St. Michael's Church are committed to the initiatives outlined in the U.S. Bishop's Charter for the protection of

Children and Young People in regard to the reporting and investigation of sexual abuse allegations involving minors. If you have been sexually abused as a minor by a member of the clergy or anyone representing the Catholic Church, or if you know of someone who was, you can report that abuse through the Diocesan Abuse Hotline: 1-888-296-2965 or via email at abuseline@dioceseoftrenton.org. The Diocese of Trenton reports any allegations of sexual abuse to the appropriate law enforcement agencies. Anyone with an allegation is also encouraged to provide that information to local law enforcement authorities.

### PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH

### WEEKLY MASS INTENTION

† Lacy Smith

r/o Tony & Natalina Gomes

### YEARLY MASS INTENTIONS

### **FEBRUARY 2024**

†Susan Whitman APRIL 2024

†Rita N. Cittadino

r/o Christopher M. Cittadino and Children

r/o Lex and Janet Tucci

### **SEPTEMBER 2024**

†Ralph and Eleanor Siciliano †Connie and Tony Criesi

†Dick Nolan

r/o The Boeckman Family

r/o Lin Criesi r/o Lin Criesi

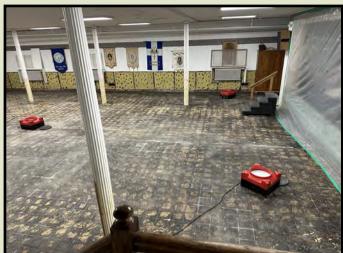
Fr. Alphonse's Christmas Concert at St. Michael's Church Sunday, December 17, 2023 1:30 p.m. in the Upper Church for Fr. Alphonse's Tickets Christmas Concert here at St. Michael's went on sale Monday, October 23rd. For the first few weeks, these tickets have been sold online by visiting the parish's website at www.stmichaelnj.com which will take you to the ticket-selling website of Eventbrite. Online sales will continue. Tickets also will be available for purchase "manually" in the rear of the church and in the parish business office and may be paid for there with cash or a check. These "manual sales" of the concert tickets will take place in the Church *after* Mass as follows and in the parish office as follows: In-Church Sales •Following the Sunday, December 10th 12:00 Noon Mass. **In-Office Sales** •Tuesday-Thursday, December 12-14 from 9;00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. All concert seats will be reserved and assigned seating. The pricing levels are \$55, \$50, and \$45. Tickets will not be available for purchase over the phone. If you purchased your ticket online, please print out the ticket and bring the ticket with you to the concert.

# Repairs in Our Lower Church; An Update - Where Things Now Stand

The repairs in our Lower Church are progressing – slowly but surely. Extensive water damage occurred in the Lower Church with the record-breaking rainfall and flooding of September 29. All of the basement's carpet and all of the wainscoting up to the chair-rail height had to be removed either because it had been destroyed by the flood waters or to prevent mold etc. The outdoor repair work (underground rainwater drainage upgrading) was completed in November (please see the bulletins of November 12 and 19, 2023).

In the meantime, insurance adjusters, contractors, flooring specialists, and others have been working on the plans for the Lower Church repair project, prepping the "old floor" for installation of a new porcelain tile floor, selecting materials, and working-out the costs and the sources of funds and the extent of the insurance coverage and the extent of the parish's out-of-pocket expense, etc. The total price for all of the indoor Lower Church repair work (from the commencement of the emergency water remediation and debris removal on September 29 itself to the last drop of new paint in the (hopefully) near future) is currently estimated at over \$100,000 and possibly as much as \$150,000 or more. Thankfully, much of that expense is covered by insurance through our Diocese of Trenton. The accompanying photos illustrate the current condition of the Lower Church as of December 5 as this December 10 bulletin is being sent to the publisher for printing. The likelihood of the Lower Church being repaired and ready for use for Masses on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day is very low. We will keep everyone posted and informed about that prospect and about progress, in general, in the Lower Church. Please pray for the success and swift completion of this repair project and for its long-term results.









# **Weekend Collection & Attendance**

### Thank You!

### Saturday, December 2, 2023

<b>4:00 PM Mass</b>	\$2,196.00	146 people
<b>5:30 PM Mass</b>	\$801.00	77 people
7:00 PM Mass	\$515.00	51 people

### Sunday, December 3, 2023

7:00 AM Mass	\$1,403.00	84 people
<b>8:30 AM Mass</b>	\$2,391.00	132 people
10:00 AM Mass	\$890.00	98 people
12:00 PM Mass	\$1,575.00	125 people
4:00 PM Mass	\$1,550.00	123 people
7:00 PM Mass	\$584.00	109 people

Mailed-in Envelopes for the December 3 collection and for previous Sunday collections during the Pandemic Lockdown: \$1,005.00

This Week's Total: \$12,910.00

Same Week's Total Last Year: \$13,348.00

The Blessed Mother, the St. Joseph, and the Center Sanctuary Candles will be lit this week for the Pro-Life Cause, for Peace throughout the World, and for a holy, happy, healthy Advent 2023.



### 2024 Mass Book

We kindly ask that when you come to the office for scheduling, please bring a written list including the names and dates of your requests and your name and phone number. The stipend for Masses is \$10.00 per Mass.



On the Calendar at St. Michael's Church	CALENDAR
Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe	Tuesday, December 12, 2023 (See Page 4 for details)
Simbang Gabi	December 12-20, 2023 (See Page 8 for details)
Rosary Altar Society Christmas Luncheon	Wednesday, December 13, 2023
Advent Scripture & Spirituality Talk	Wednesday; December 13, 2023 7:00 p.m. (See Page 3 for details)
Blessing of Parish Outdoor Christmas Creche	Saturday, December 16, 2023 Sunday, December 17, 2023 (See Page 3 for details)
Fr. Alphonse's Christmas Concert at St. Michael's	Sunday, December 17, 2023 1:30 p.m. (See Page 5 for details)
Advent Penance Service	Monday, December 18, 2023 6:00 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. (See Page 3 for details)
Christmas (Holy Day of Obligation)	Monday, December 25, 2023
New Year's Day and Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God (not a holy	Monday, January 1, 2024

PRAY FOR
PEACE
IN
UKRAINE

day of obligation in 2024)



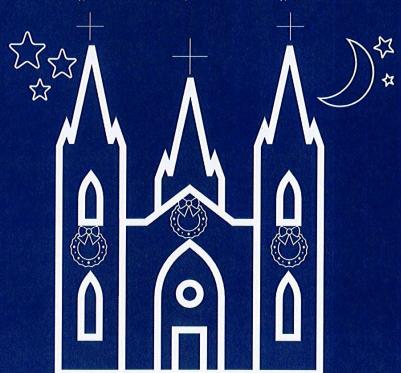


# 2023 Monmouth County

# Simbang Gabi

6:30 p.m. Rosary, Confessions, Eucharistic Adoration | 7:00 p.m. Mass

Tuesday, December 12, at Saint James, Red Bank
Wednesday, December 13, at Saint Ann, Keansburg
Thursday, December 14, at Saint Catherine, Farmingdale
Friday, December 15, at Holy Innocents, Neptune
Saturday, December 16, at Holy Family, Union Beach
Sunday, December 17, at Saint Dorothea, Eatontown
Monday, December 18, at Saint Benedict, Holmdel
Tuesday, December 19, at Saint Clement, Matawan
Wednesday, December 20, at Saint Mary, Middletown



Inherited by the Filipinos from the Spaniards, the Simbang Gabi (Night Mass) is a Catholic devotion of offering a Mass each night for nine consecutive days in joyful anticipation of Christmas Day. All are welcome to this festive Novena of Masses.

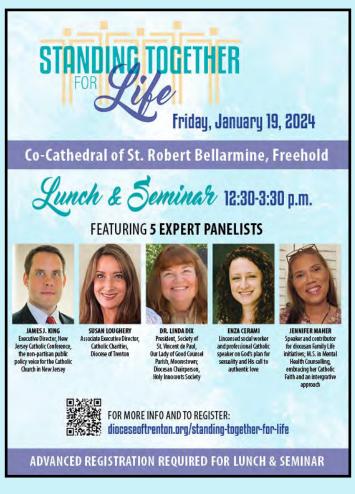
# Standing Together for Life – Mass for Life; Lunch & Seminar

On Friday January 19, 2024, the faithful of the Diocese of Trenton will come together in prayer and solidarity to proclaim the sanctity of all human life!

All are invited to an 11:00 a.m. Mass for Life celebrated by Bishop David M. O'Connell, C.M., in St. Robert Bellarmine Co-Cathedral, 61 Georgia Rd., Freehold. No registration is needed for the Mass, seating is first come first served. Mass will be livestreamed on Youtube.com/trentondiocese.

The Mass will be followed by a Lunch & Seminar in the Co-Cathedral's Dentici Hall. A panel of local expert speakers will offer practical, actionable ideas and resources to take back to parishes where they can be immediately applied to build a culture of life in a spirit of inter-ministry collaboration and radical solidarity with vulnerable pregnant women and families. Advanced registration to attend the Lunch & Seminar is required by January 10, 2024.

Full details for the day's events, including a registration link for the Lunch & Seminar can be found at: dioceseoftrenton.org/standing-together-for-life. Questions, contact Belem Perez at 609-403-7133 or bperez@dioceseoftrenton.org







# WHAT IS IT? WHAT IS THE NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL?

The National Eucharistic Revival is a three-year initiative sponsored by the Bishops of the United States to inspire and prepare the People of God to be formed, healed, concerted, united, and sent out to a hurting and hungry world through a renewed encounter with Jesus in the Eucharist - the source and summit of our Catholic faith. The revival has officially begun in June 2022, and its milestone event will be a National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis, Indiana, from July 17-21, 2024. The National Eucharistic Revival and National Eucharistic Congress are a direct response to the Holy Father's call for a "pastoral and missionary conversion which cannot leave things as they presently are" so that the Church the United States miaht "permanently in a state of mission." (Evangelii Gaudium, n. 25)

This Eucharistic movement seeks to bring together clergy, religious, laity, apostolates, movements, and parish and diocesan leaders to spur momentum, collaboration, and lasting impact for the re-



newal of the Catholic Church in the U.S. over the next three years. Each year will have a strategic focus for formation and missionary discipleship.

### WHAT'S HAPPENED SO FAR?

### THE FEAST OF CORPUS CHRISTI

June 19, 2022

We launch our national response to the Lord's call with widespread eucharistic processions and adoration on the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ.

### WHAT'S NEXT?

## YEAR OF DIOCESAN REVIVAL

2022 - 2023

This first year of the Revival invites diocesan staff, bishops, and priests to respond to the Lord's personal invitation and equips them to share this love with the faithful through Eucharistic congresses and events.

### YEAR OF PARISH REVIVAL

2023 - 2024

The second phase will foster Eucharistic devotion at the parish level, strengthening our liturgical life through faithful celebration of the Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, missions, resources, preaching, and organic movements of the Holy Spirit.

# NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS

July 2024

At this historic event, more than 80,000 Catholics of all ages will gather in Indianapolis to reconsecrate their hearts to the source and summit of our faith.

### YEAR OF GOING OUT ON MISSION 2024 –2025

Having enkindled a missionary fire in the hearts of the American faithful, the Holy Spirit will send us out on mission to share the gift of our Eucharistic Lord.

All are welcome to join our Family Ministry Fair Live Webinar on Thursday, January 25, 2024 from 1:00 – 3:30 PM. Our four speakers will be: Dr. Gregory Popcak (Catholic HOM), Damon Owens (Communio), Enza Cerami (Living Stones, Inc.) and Patrick Metts, LPC (RESTORE Catholic Marriage Resource). This event presents a chance to learn and grow parish outreach to families and also minister to marriages. For more information and/or to RSVP for the Zoom link please contact cdaverso@diometuchen.org





Our Parish is in need of lectors/ readers and altar servers for *ALL* of our Masses and especially our Sunday 7:00 a.m. Mass, Saturday 7:00 p.m. Mass, Weekday Masses, and from time-to-time for our Funeral Masses.

If you can help, please call the parish business office, 732-222-8080.

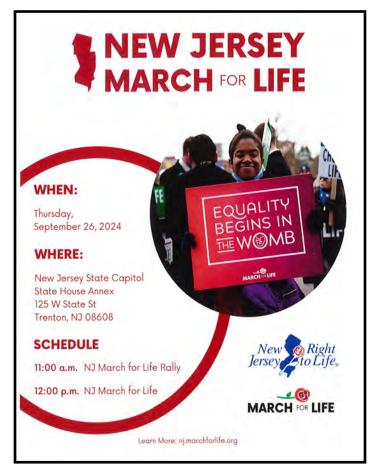
Thank you!



### **Aid For The Hearing Impaired**

We offer the use of radio aids during Mass upon request. The device is tuned to the sound system in the church so that those who have a hearing deficit might hear more clearly. Please ask an usher for assistance.





# Communion Visits; Confession Visits; Anointing of the Sick

Please keep in mind that the parish priest and our lay Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist are available and eager to bring Communion to parishioners who are in the hospital (nursing homes, assisted living facilities, rehab centers, and hospices, too) and to parishioners who are at



home but unable to get to church. Please contact Mary Valan at the parish office or Dotty O'Hara at (908)310-6497 to make

arrangements. Hospitals and other healthcare facilities *generally do not notify the parish office* regarding their Catholic patients who desire to receive Sacraments. And so it falls to the patient herself/himself or to a family

member or friend to contact the parish office to make the request. The parish priest will also very gladly make a hospital visit or home visit to hear a Confession and/or administer the Sacrament of the Sick ("Anointing of the Sick") in addition to bringing Holy Communion. Please remember to contact the parish office or Dotty to make these arrangements. Thank you.

